The goal of this encyclopedia is to “reflect the most current thinking and research” (xxxv) on a variety of topics in career development. The publisher’s aim is to provide “the premier reference tool for students, scholars, and others interested in gaining knowledge or conducting research on career development related topics” (xxxv). The two volumes cover both theoretical and practical aspects of the field.

The work is extensive and thorough with more than four hundred entries covering broad themes relating to career development: the social context, including cultural and international perspectives, diversity, social class and background, organizational environment, and work-life issues; evolution and development; decision-making in career development; variations in career patterns and career success; initiatives; legislative and regulatory mandates; assessment areas and techniques; job search and organizational recruiting; and professional associations. A reader’s guide at the beginning of each volume places each entry under one or more of the themes so the user can find related topics.

Entries are arranged alphabetically from “abilities” to “wrongful dismissal,” and range from two to six pages in length. Each begins with a definition and introduction to the subject and ends with cross references to other entries and a list of current and classic further readings and references. The text is concise and very clear, making this a valuable tool for a novice or student and also a great check-up or reference for either the seasoned professional or scholar. Each volume includes the detailed sixty-two-page index.

The work was supervised by two coeditors who also coauthored a textbook on career management. Both are professors of management, and Callinan has twenty-two years of experience with the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia as well. There is also a six-person editorial review board, all academics. A brief biography of each is provided. More than three hundred contributors, mostly academics but some practitioners, are listed with their affiliations. Each contributor’s name appears after her or his entry.

A search of Books in Print found no other encyclopedias about career development; this comprehensive volume seems to be unique. There are career encyclopedias but their focus is on particular careers rather than the discipline of career development. Handbook of Career Theory, edited by Michael B. Arthur, Douglas T. Hall, and Barbara S. Lawrence (Cambridge Univ. Pr., 1989), is also a cross-disciplinary text, but it is outdated and its focus is on theory only.

Encyclopedia of Career Development is a very impressive cross-disciplinary work; it covers the entire gamut of career development from both the corporate and individual viewpoints. It is beautifully arranged both thematically and alphabetically. Ease of use and access to the information have obviously been high priorities. It is highly recommended for academic libraries, large public libraries, and corporate libraries.

—Carol Krismann, Head, William M. White Business Library, University of Colorado, Boulder


Encyclopedia of Disability is one of the most comprehensive and well-crafted reference sources to be sent to this reviewer in recent years. This set of five volumes has been in production for six years since its initial conception back in 1999. According to the introduction, it was “conceived as an effort to bring current knowledge of and experience with disability across a wide variety of places, conditions, and cultures to both the general reader and the specialist,” and was intended to have a broad context and interdisciplinary perspective split into manageable topics (lxiii). These goals have been met admirably with an attractive reference set that is impressive in scope, content, and viewpoint. Encyclopedia of Disability involved seventy-four editors and five hundred authors from more than twenty countries and was shaped by researchers, persons with disabilities, advocates, students, government officials, and policy makers. As such, it provides a thorough, thoughtful, balanced, and enlightened approach to an important subject. According to the general editor, aging, modern medicine, chronic disease, war and civic strife, and the stresses of contemporary modern life all contribute to the perception, if not the reality, of increasing disability in the United States and around the world.

Volumes 1–4 of Encyclopedia of Disability contain individual entries arranged in alphabetical order. The topics of entries are wide ranging, including biographies, ethical issues, the experience of being a person with a disability, education, health care, politics, organizations, law, social policy, and religion, to name but a few. Entries address the topics from historical perspectives, current thinking, and future strategies. Each entry includes cross references and suggestions of print materials and Web sites for further reading. Entries are well organized and beautifully written so that they are understandable to a variety of readers, including those who are not experts in the field.

Volume 5 is devoted to primary sources on disability. It is divided into three sections: the ancient world, 1500–1800, and 1946 to the present, and includes a brief introduction. Materials are provided from the Bible and other religious texts, movies, literature, poetry, medical treatises, diary entries, and legislation. Brief annotations and biographical notes enhance the material, and bibliographic information is provided for each item. The volume contains a number of illustrations, including paintings, photographs, and movie stills. Volume 5 is an especially interesting and valuable feature of the Encyclopedia of Disability; the richness and diversity of materials included make it not only useful for historical research, but also provide a compelling testament to how approaches to disability have changed over many centuries in a variety of cultures. It is easy to immerse oneself in this volume. Likewise, the cover art on each of the volumes reflects the changing experience of disability, described nicely in a section on visualizing variation.

In addition to volume 5, there are several other features of Encyclopedia of Disability that add to its usefulness as a
reference source. Each volume contains a reader’s guide that
groups entries into topical categories; a list of entries for the
entire set; and lists of the primary sources and illustrations
featured in volume 5. In addition to an introduction by the
general editor describing the inspiration, history, and develop-
ment of the set, there are lists of editorial and advisory
board members and contributors; and biographical infor-
mation about the general and associate editors and senior
advisory board. A detailed chronology on disability and a
discussion on how to search and evaluate disability Web sites
are provided at the end of each volume.

A search of WorldCat offers evidence that Encyclopedia of
Disability fills an important niche in the literature by provid-
ing a comprehensive, historical, and multicultural source of
information on this important topic. Encyclopedia of Disabil-
ity and Rehabilitation by Dell Orto and Marinelli (Macmillan,
1995) is only 820 pages in length and was published more
than a decade ago, which is significant in a field that has
changed so much since then. On the other hand, two publica-
tions by Reynolds and Fletcher-Janzen, Concise Encyclopedia
of Special Education (Wiley, 2002) and Encyclopedia of Special
Education: A Reference for the Education of the Handicapped
and Other Exceptional Children and Adults (Wiley, 2000) are more
recent, but concentrate on only one aspect of disability. Tver
and Tver’s Encyclopedia of Mental and Physical Handicaps (Pro-
Ed, 1991) is not only from the early 1990s, just after the pas-
sage of the Americans with Disability Act, but even the title
of the volume uses outdated terminology.

Encyclopedia of Disability would be an appropriate addi-
tion to nearly any library collection. It is a lovely set of beau-
tifully produced volumes and the price is more than reasonable
given the quality of the work. Disability is an issue that con-
fronts everyone, whether as a patient, family member, service
provider, legislator, fundraiser, or taxpayer, making this set
a particularly good purchase for public libraries—Sara Anne
Hook, Professor and Associate Dean, Indiana University School of
Informatics, Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis.

Encyclopedia of Educational Leadership and Administration. Ed.

A reference work that tackles important theories, issues,
and people dedicated to the field of educational leadership
and administration would be a welcome addition to reference
collections in libraries. Encyclopedia of Educational Leadership
and Administration, completed after two years of work under
the guidance of Editor Fenwick W. English, accomplishes just
that. English, an accomplished academic and author in the
field of educational leadership, has created an encyclopedia
for current and future school administrators that will be most
helpful in educating the next generation of leaders working
within the current climate of accountability and rigid stan-
dardization in public education.

The 260-some contributors wrote entries spanning from
one to twelve pages, all with important additional references
for further reading. Both volumes include a basic alphabeti-
cal list of entries and a “Reader’s Guide” as well as a shorter
list of entries by topic, such as administration, economics,
and law and policy, to name a few. The entries appear to be
primarily grounded in the history of education, important
movements within education, and educational and learning
theory. The entries range across the common listings that one
would expect in a work dedicated to administration, such as
“Leadership Styles” and “Affirmative Action,” but the number
of interesting biographies included was a pleasant surprise.
Amidst the heavier, theory-driven entries, readers will find
spots dedicated to activist and educator Mary McLeod Beth-
hune and philosopher and educator Plato.

While undergraduate education majors and future teach-
ers may benefit from a more general reference work dedicated
to education, this set will be an excellent resource for those
studying administration. The longer, in-depth essays address
important administrative issues such as accountability, diver-
sity, and legal topics. Students in educational administration
graduate programs and current school administrators will get
the most use from this work. Its depth and breadth within the
topic are admirable; the only weakness is that it is a rather
specialized topic. This set would be an excellent addition to
academic libraries supporting education or educational-ad-
ministration programs, and an optional purchase for public li-
braries because of its specialized content and price.—Michelle
S. Millet, Information Literacy Coordinator, Trinity University,
San Antonio, Texas

Encyclopedia of Fantasy and Horror Fiction. By Don D’Ammassa.
6192-0).

The distinction between fantasy and supernatural fiction
(which is sometimes called “dark fantasy” or “horror”) is often
unclear, as explained by Don D’Ammassa in the introduction
to this work. A professional writer, D’Ammassa offers a brief
taxonomic and historical discussion, touching on several sub-
categories and identifying major representatives in each.

The bulk of the work is an alphabetical arrangement of
entries devoted to primary and secondary authors as well as
important stories, novels, and series. The entries range from
two paragraphs to two pages. D’Ammassa reaches back to
early writers such as Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, includes
popular contemporary figures such as J. K. Rowling, adds
some “newer writers who may become the leading names over
the next few years” (viii), and finds room for such unfairly
neglected figures as “Sarban” (John William Wall).

Key works by writers the caliber of Shelley and Rowling
receive separate entries, while lesser figures are represented
by a short author entry only, or by one or more title entries.
D’Ammassa typically places writers and works in the larger
context of their periods and genres, but the only references
to sources of further information appear in a very short sec-
ondary bibliography.

Although two stories by the great Jorge Luis Borges are
included, D’Ammassa’s emphasis among twentieth-century
authors tends to be upon genre writers. Missing are such